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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

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SUBJECT The Ruse-Podkova Railway Line

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[redacted] 25X1

1. The Ruse - Gorna Oryakhovitsa - Tŭrnovo - Drenovo - Stara Zagora - Dimitrovgrad - Podkova railway line is a single-track, 143 cm. standard-gauge steam engine operated line which includes a total of 12 bridges. The railway line passes through 12 tunnels, with lengths of 120, 175, 80, 90, 900, 800, 600, 800, 600, 800, 600 and 600 meters respectively. Recently, repair work was done on the superstructures of this railway line.

2. The Ruse-Podkova railway line includes the following bridges:

   a. A bridge crossing the Yantra River, located 800 to 900 meters from the railway station of Gorna Oryakhovitsa, next to the south entrance of a tunnel, with the following characteristics:

      (1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, 3-span, each 20 meters in length;

      (2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;

      (3) Length: 70 to 75 meters;

      (4) Width: eight meters;

      (5) Height above river bed: eight meters;

      (6) Side walls: metal, with railings;

      (7) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;

      (8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meters;

      (9) Support: Equalizing bed type;

      (10) Current: very slow;

      (11) High water mark: 2.5 meters;

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25X1

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

(12) Low water mark: 50 centimeters; and

(13) Slope of river banks: 40 degrees.

b. A bridge crossing the Yantra River, located approximately 2.5 kilometers north of the Byala railroad station, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, twin span, each 22 meters long;

(2) Girders: four parabolic girders with upper profile (two per side, from the abutment to the pile), simple trestle type;

(3) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;

(4) Length: 54-55 meters;

(5) Width: eight meters;

(6) Height above river bed: 10 to 11 meters;

(7) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;

(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;

(9) Current: fairly swift;

(10) High water mark: unknown;

(11) Low water mark: unknown; and

(12) Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

c. A bridge crossing the Yantra River, located 250 meters south of the railway stop at Trapezitsa, Tŭrnovo Okoliya, approximately 3.2 kilometers north of the Tŭrnovo railroad station and immediately north of a tunnel, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal girder-type, twin span, each 22 meters long;
(2) Girders: low, rectilinear girders, three meters in height;
(3) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(4) Length: approximately 55 meters;
(5) Width: eight meters;
(6) Height above river bed: 12 meters;
(7) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: slow;
(11) High water mark: three meters;
(12) Low water mark: 80 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 80 to 85 degrees;

d. A bridge crossing the Yantra River located approximately 400 meters south of the bridge described in (c) above, in the immediate vicinity of the south entrance to a tunnel, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, twin-span, each 25 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: approximately 60 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: 11 to 12 meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;

(10) Current: slow;
(11) High water mark: three meters;
(12) Low water mark: 60 to 70 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 70 degrees;

e. A bridge crossing the Drenovska River, located six kilometers southwest of the main station of Tŭrnovo, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder type, twin span, each 20 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: approximately 50 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: seven meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in cement;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: very swift;
(11) High water mark: four meters (in the sprint);
(12) Low water mark: 20 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 60 degrees;

f. A bridge crossing the Tepovitsa River, located approximately 1.2 kilometers north of the railroad station at Trevna (N 42-52, E 25-30), Drenovo Okoliya, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder type, with a single span 20 meters in length;
(2) Abutments: stone masonry;
(3) Length: approximately 22 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: six meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: swift;
(11) High water mark: two meters;
(12) Low water mark: 20 to 30 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 60 degrees;

g. A bridge crossing the Tundzha River, located approximately three kilometers south of the railroad station of Tulovo (N 42-35, E 25-33), Kazanlŭk Okoliya, at a point where the line forms an "S" curve, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, 3-span, each 20 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: approximately 70 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: eight meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: very slow;
(11) High water mark: 1.5 to 2 meters;
(12) Low water mark: 40 centimeters;
(13) Slope of river banks: 50 degrees;

h. A bridge crossing the Zmeyovska River, located approximately one kilometer south of the Zmeyovo (N 42-30, E 25-37) railroad station, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: stone masonry, arch-type, 8-span, each 11 meters

25X1

(2) Arches: cut stone;
(3) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(4) Length: 120 meters;
(5) Width: eight meters;
(6) Height above river bed: 35 meters at the center;
(7) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(8) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(9) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(10) Current: swift;
(11) High water mark: unknown;
(12) Low water mark: 20 to 30 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 80 degrees;

i. A bridge crossing the Maritsa River, located approximately 1.5 kilometers north of the railway station of Rakovski, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, 12 span, each 15 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: 220 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: 10 meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: slow;
(11) High water mark: three meters;
(12) Low water mark: one meter; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 40 to 50 degrees;

j. A bridge crossing an unidentified stream, located approximately 1.2 kilometers north of the railway station of Knizhovnik (N 41-50, E 25-37), Khaskovo Okoliya, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, twin span, each 15 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: 36 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: nine meters;
(6) Service paths: One on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: unknown;
(10) Current: swift;
(11) High water mark: three meters;
(12) Low water mark: 40 centimeters; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 80 degrees;

k. A bridge crossing the Perperek River, located approximately 400 meters southwest of the railroad station of Perperek (N 41-41, E 25-32), situated approximately 15 kilometers northeast of Kurdzhali, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, twin-span, each 20 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: 50 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: 11-12 meters;
(6) Service paths: 1.5 meters wide, one on each side, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: swift;
(11) High water mark: three or four meters;
(12) Low water [illegible]

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

1. A bridge crossing the Arda River, located 1.5 kilometers south of the railway station of Kurdzhali, with the following characteristics:

(1) Type of bridge: metal, girder-type, 6-span, each 20 meters long;
(2) Abutments and piles: stone masonry;
(3) Length: 154 meters;
(4) Width: eight meters;
(5) Height above river bed: 10 meters;
(6) Service paths: one on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
(7) Side walls: metal, with railings;
(8) Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter;
(9) Support: equalizing bed type;
(10) Current: slow;
(11) High water mark: four meters;
(12) Low water mark: one meter; and
(13) Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

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